

REMARKS

Claims 1-21 and 24-34 are pending. No new matter has been added by way of the above amendments. For instance, the present claims have simply been amended to recite "method" claims instead of "use" claims. Claims 22 and 23 have been cancelled and claims 26-34 have been added. New claim 26 is supported by originally filed claims 3, 5, 7, 9, 11, 13, 15 and 17. New claims 27-30, 32 and 33 are supported by originally filed claim 19 and new claim 31 is supported by originally filed claims 21 and 25. New claim 34 is supported by originally filed claim 18. Accordingly, no new matter has been added.

Restriction/Election of Species Requirement

In the outstanding Office Action the Examiner has required restriction to one of the following three groups:

Group I, claims 1-19, recite an additional active ingredient;

Group II, claims 20 and 21, recite an additional active ingredient; and

Group III, claims 22-25, which do not recite a particular active ingredient.

Applicants respectively traverse.

Applicants note that the currently pending claims are only claims 1-21 and 24-34. Applicants submit that claims 20, 21 and 24-34 should not be separated from claims 1-19 since both claims include the same feature of the method of treatment, prevention or alleviation of a disease or disorder or condition of a mammal related to immune dysfunction comprising administering a chemical compound having selective IK_{Ca} modulatory activity.

In order to be fully responsive to the outstanding Office Action Applicants hereby elect Group I, directed to claims 1-19. However, this is an election with traverse since Applicants believe that the Examiner should search and consider all of currently pending claims 1-21 and 24-34 in their entirety.

The Examiner has also requested that Applicants elect a particular utility from the list in claim 19. Applicants hereby elect "autoimmune diseases" as a specific utility. If this is not definitive enough, Applicants hereby elect sclerosis as a specific utility. It also appears as though the Examiner has requested that Applicants elect one active ingredient. Accordingly, Applicants hereby elect (4-chlorophenyldiphenyl)-carbinol as outlined in claims 18 and 34.

It is Applicants understanding that the above species elections will serve as a starting point for examination only. Upon searching and considering the elected species the Examiner

should expand the search in order to include other species with the intent of finding the generic claim ultimately allowable.

Favorable action on the merits is respectfully solicited.

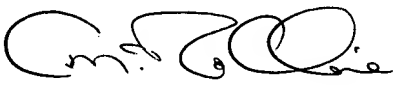
Pursuant to the provisions of 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.17 and 1.136(a), the Applicants hereby petition for an extension of one (1) month to October 9, 2002 in which to file a reply to the Office Action. The required fee of \$110.00 is enclosed herewith.

If the Examiner has any questions or comments, please contact Craig A. McRobbie (Reg. No. 42,874) at the offices of Birch, Stewart, Kolasch & Birch, LLP.

If necessary, the Commissioner is hereby authorized in this, concurrent, and future replies, to charge payment or credit any overpayment to Deposit Account No. 02-2448 for any additional fees required under 37 C.F.R. § 1.16 or under 37 C.F.R. § 1.17; particularly, extension of time fees.

Respectfully submitted,

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Attachment: Version with Markings to Show Changes Made

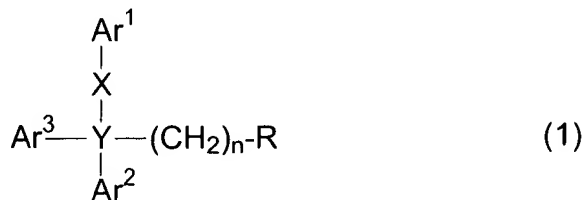
VERSION WITH MARKINGS TO SHOW CHANGES MADEIN THE CLAIMS:

Claims 22 and 23 have been cancelled.

The claims have been amended as follows:

1. (Amended) [Use of a chemical compound having selective IK_{Ca} modulatory activity for the manufacture of a medicament] A method for the treatment, prevention or alleviation of a disease or a disorder or a condition of a mammal, [including a human,] which disease, disorder or condition relates to immune dysfunction, said method comprising administering a therapeutically effective amount of a chemical compound having selective IK_{Ca} modulatory activity to said mammal.

2. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 1, wherein the chemical compound is a triaryl methane derivative represented by [the general] Formula I



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

X is absent, or represent a group of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-$, of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-Z-$ (in either direction), of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-CH=N-$ (in either direction), the formula $-(CH_2)_n-Z-(CH_2)_m-$ (in either direction), or of the formula $-(CH_2)_n-CH=N-(CH_2)_m$, (in either direction), or a group of the formula $-R'''C(O)N-$;

in which formulas

n and m , independently of each another, represent 0, 1, 2, 3 or 4; and

Z represents O, S, or NR''' , wherein R''' represents hydrogen or alkyl;

Y represents a carbon atom (C), a nitrogen atom (N), or a phosphorus atom (P), a silicon atom (Si), or a germanium atom (Ge);

Ar^1 , Ar^2 and Ar^3 , independently of each another, represents a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] $-OR''$, $-SR''$, $-R'OR''$, $-R'SR''$, $-C(O)R''$, $-C(S)R''$, $-C(O)OR''$, $-C(S)OR''$,

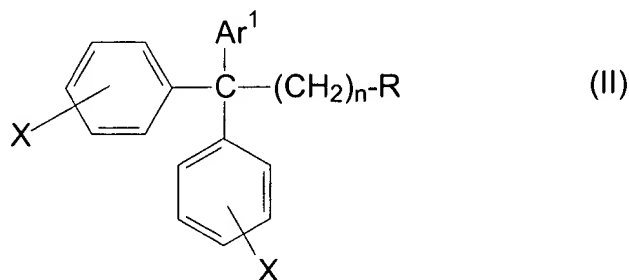
-C(O)SR'', -C(S)SR'', -C(O)NR'(OR''), -C(S)NR'(OR''),
 -C(O)NR'(SR''), -C(S)NR'(SR''), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR''₂, -C(S)NR''₂,
 -CH[C(O)R'']₂, -CH[C(S)R'']₂, -CH[C(O)OR'']₂, -CH[C(S)OR'']₂,
 -CH[C(O)SR'']₂, -CH[C(S)SR'']₂, -CH₂OR'', [OR] and -CH₂SR'';

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R''OR', -R''SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR''(OR'), -C(S)NR''(OR'), -C(O)NR''(SR'), -C(S)NR''(SR'), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR''₂, -C(S)NR''₂, -CH[C(O)R']₂, -CH[C(S)R']₂, -CH[C(O)OR']₂, -CH[C(S)OR']₂, -CH[C(O)SR']₂, -CH[C(S)SR']₂, -CH₂OR', or -CH₂SR'; or a [to] partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] -OR', [or] and -SR'; and

R' and R'', independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

3. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6 membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3 oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

4. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the chemical compound is a triaryl methane derivative represented by [the general] Formula II



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5 or 6;

Ar¹ represents a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR"₂, -C(S)NR"₂, -CH[C(O)R"]₂, -CH[C(S)R"]₂, -CH[C(O)OR"]₂, -CH[C(S)OR"]₂, -CH[C(O)SR"]₂, -CH[C(S)SR"]₂, -CH₂OR", [or] and -CH₂SR";

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR'₂, -C(S)NR'₂, -CH[C(O)R']₂, -CH[C(S)R']₂, -CH[C(O)OR']₂, -CH[C(S)OR']₂, -CH[C(O)SR']₂, -CH[C(S)SR']₂, -CH₂OR', or -CH₂SR'; or a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or

polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] -OR', [or] and -SR';

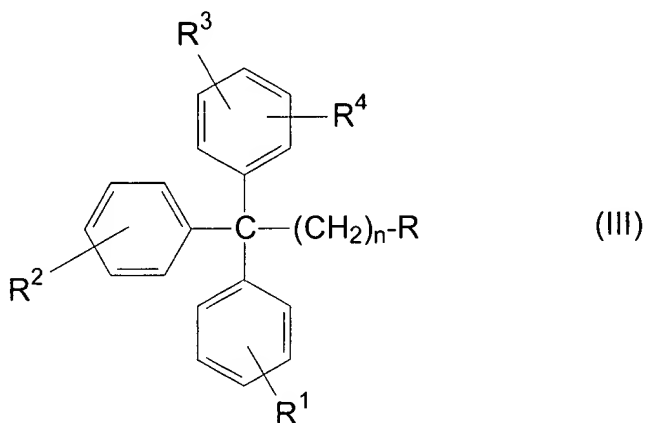
which triaryl methane derivative may further be substituted one or more times with a substituent X selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR"₂, -C(S)NR"₂, -CH[C(O)R"]₂, -CH[C(S)R"]₂, -CH[C(O)OR"]₂, -CH[C(S)OR"]₂, -CH[C(O)SR"]₂, -CH[C(S)SR"]₂, -CH₂OR", [or] and -CH₂SR"; and

R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

5. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 4, wherein the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting

of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

6. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by [the general] Formula III



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group

of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R',
 -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR" (OR'),
 -C(S)NR" (OR'), -C(O)NR" (SR'), -C(S)NR" (SR'), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR'₂,
 -C(S)NR'₂, -CH[C(O)R']₂, -CH[C(S)R']₂, -CH[C(O)OR']₂,
 -CH[C(S)OR']₂, -CH[C(O)SR']₂, -CH[C(S)SR']₂, -CH₂OR', or -CH₂SR';
 or a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl
 group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or
 polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more
 times with substituents selected from the group consisting of
 hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl,
 alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula]
 -OR', [or] and -SR';

R¹, R², R³ and R⁴, independently of each another, represents
 hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl,
 alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR",
 -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR",
 -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR' (OR"), -C(S)NR' (OR"), -C(O)NR' (SR"),
 -C(S)NR' (SR"), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR"₂, -C(S)NR"₂, -CH[C(O)R"]₂,
 -CH[C(S)R"]₂, -CH[C(O)OR"]₂, -CH[C(S)OR"]₂, -CH[C(O)SR"]₂,
 -CH[C(S)SR"]₂, -CH₂OR", or -CH₂SR"; and

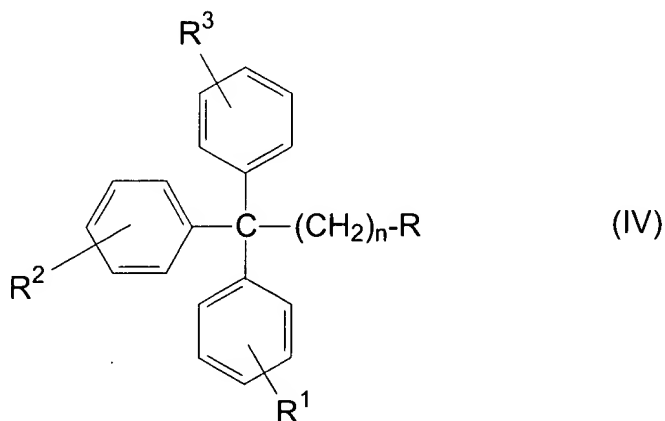
R' and R", independently of each another, represents
 hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

7. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 6, wherein

the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

8. The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by [the general] Formula IV



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR'₂, -C(S)NR'₂, -CH[C(O)R']₂, -CH[C(S)R']₂, -CH[C(O)OR']₂, -CH[C(S)OR']₂, -CH[C(O)SR']₂, -CH[C(S)SR']₂, -CH₂OR', or -CH₂SR'; or a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] -OR', [or] and -SR';

R¹, R² and R³, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR"₂, -C(S)NR"₂, -CH[C(O)R"]₂,

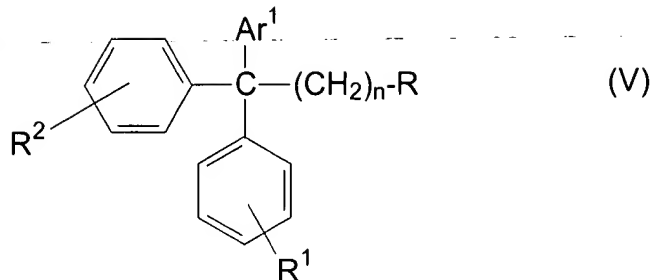
-CH[C(S)R"]₂, -CH[C(O)OR"]₂, -CH[C(S)OR"]₂, -CH[C(O)SR"]₂,
-CH[C(S)SR"]₂, -CH₂OR", or -CH₂SR"; and

R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

9. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 8, wherein the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-
membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, [1,2,3-oxadiazoiyl] 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

10. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by [the general] Formula V



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

Ar^1 represents a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] $-\text{OR}''$, $-\text{SR}''$, $-\text{R}'\text{OR}''$, $-\text{R}'\text{SR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{R}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{OR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{SR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{SR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}'(\text{OR}'')$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{NR}'(\text{OR}'')$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}'(\text{SR}'')$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{NR}'(\text{SR}'')$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CN})_2$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}''_2$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{NR}''_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}'']_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{S})\text{R}'']_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}'']_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{S})\text{OR}'']_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{O})\text{SR}'']_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{S})\text{SR}'']_2$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OR}''$, [or] and $-\text{CH}_2\text{SR}''$;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group

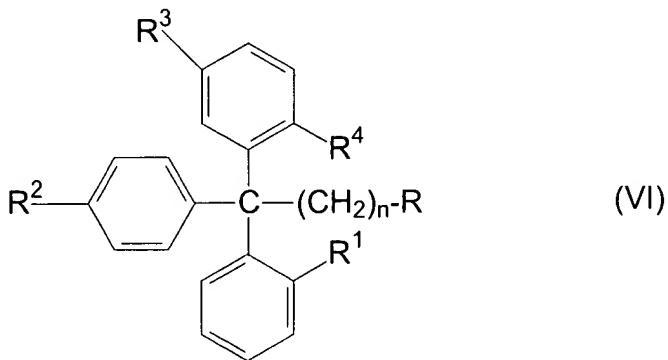
of the formula $-OR'$, $-SR'$, $-R''OR'$, $-R''SR'$, $-C(O)R'$, $-C(S)R'$,
 $-C(O)OR'$, $-C(S)OR'$, $-C(O)SR'$, $-C(S)SR'$, $-C(O)NR''(OR')$,
 $-C(S)NR''(OR')$, $-C(O)NR''(SR')$, $-C(S)NR''(SR')$, $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR'_2$,
 $-C(S)NR'_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$,
 $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$;
or a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl
group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or
polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more
times with substituents selected from the group consisting of
hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl,
alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula]
 $-OR'$, [or] and $-SR'$;

R^1 and R^2 , independently of each another, represents
hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl,
alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula $-OR''$,
 $-SR''$, $-R'OR''$, $-R'SR''$, $-C(O)R''$, $-C(S)R''$, $-C(O)OR''$, $-C(S)OR''$,
 $-C(O)SR''$, $-C(S)SR''$, $-C(O)NR'(OR'')$, $-C(S)NR'(OR'')$, $-C(O)NR'(SR'')$,
 $-C(S)NR'(SR'')$, $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR''_2$, $-C(S)NR''_2$, $-CH[C(O)R'']_2$,
 $-CH[C(S)R'']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR'']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR'']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR'']_2$,
 $-CH[C(S)SR'']_2$, $-CH_2OR''$, or $-CH_2SR''$; and

R' and R'' , independently of each another, represents
hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

11. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 10, wherein the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

12. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by [the general] Formula VI



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR'₂, -C(S)NR'₂, -CH[C(O)R']₂, -CH[C(S)R']₂, -CH[C(O)OR']₂, -CH[C(S)OR']₂, -CH[C(O)SR']₂, -CH[C(S)SR']₂, -CH₂OR', or -CH₂SR'; or a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] -OR', [or] and -SR';

R¹, R², R³ and R⁴, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR"₂, -C(S)NR"₂, -CH[C(O)R"]₂,

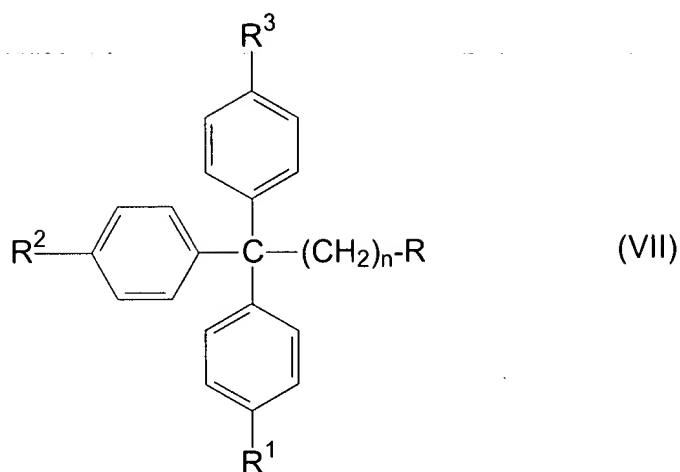
$-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{S})\text{R}"]_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}"]_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{S})\text{OR}"]_2$, $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{O})\text{SR}"]_2$,
 $-\text{CH}[\text{C}(\text{S})\text{SR}"]_2$, $-\text{CH}_2\text{OR}''$, or $-\text{CH}_2\text{SR}''$; and

R' and R'', independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

13. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 12, wherein the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

14. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by [the general] Formula VII



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula $-OR'$, $-SR'$, $-R''OR'$, $-R''SR'$, $-C(O)R'$, $-C(S)R'$, $-C(O)OR'$, $-C(S)OR'$, $-C(O)SR'$, $-C(S)SR'$, $-C(O)NR''(OR')$, $-C(S)NR''(OR')$, $-C(O)NR''(SR')$, $-C(S)NR''(SR')$, $-CH(CN)_2$, $-C(O)NR'_2$, $-C(S)NR'_2$, $-CH[C(O)R']_2$, $-CH[C(S)R']_2$, $-CH[C(O)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)OR']_2$, $-CH[C(O)SR']_2$, $-CH[C(S)SR']_2$, $-CH_2OR'$, or $-CH_2SR'$; or a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl,

alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula]

-OR', [or] and -SR';

R¹, R² and R³, independently of each another, represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR", -SR", -R'OR", -R'SR", -C(O)R", -C(S)R", -C(O)OR", -C(S)OR", -C(O)SR", -C(S)SR", -C(O)NR'(OR"), -C(S)NR'(OR"), -C(O)NR'(SR"), -C(S)NR'(SR"), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR"₂, -C(S)NR"₂, -CH[C(O)R"]₂, -CH[C(S)R"]₂, -CH[C(O)OR"]₂, -CH[C(S)OR"]₂, -CH[C(O)SR"]₂, -CH[C(S)SR"]₂, -CH₂OR", or -CH₂SR"; and

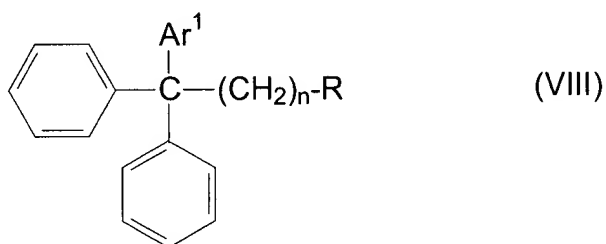
R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

15. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 14, wherein the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6 membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl,

pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

16. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the triaryl methane derivative is represented by [the general] Formula VIII



and a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate thereof, wherein,

n is 0, 1, 2, 3, 4, 5, or 6;

Ar^1 represents a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] $-\text{OR}''$, $-\text{SR}''$, $-\text{R}'\text{OR}''$, $-\text{R}'\text{SR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{R}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{R}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{OR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{OR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{SR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{SR}''$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}'(\text{OR}'')$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{NR}'(\text{OR}'')$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}'(\text{SR}'')$, $-\text{C}(\text{S})\text{NR}'(\text{SR}'')$, $-\text{CH}(\text{CN})_2$, $-\text{C}(\text{O})\text{NR}''_2$,

-C(S)NR"₂, -CH[C(O)R"]₂, -CH[C(S)R"]₂, -CH[C(O)OR"]₂,
 -CH[C(S)OR"]₂, -CH[C(O)SR"]₂, -CH[C(S)SR"]₂, -CH₂OR", [or] and
 -CH₂SR";

R represents hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro or cyano, or a group of the formula -OR', -SR', -R"OR', -R"SR', -C(O)R', -C(S)R', -C(O)OR', -C(S)OR', -C(O)SR', -C(S)SR', -C(O)NR"(OR'), -C(S)NR"(OR'), -C(O)NR"(SR'), -C(S)NR"(SR'), -CH(CN)₂, -C(O)NR'₂, -C(S)NR'₂, -CH[C(O)R']₂, -CH[C(S)R']₂, -CH[C(O)OR']₂, -CH[C(S)OR']₂, -CH[C(O)SR']₂, -CH[C(S)SR']₂, -CH₂OR', or -CH₂SR'; or a partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group, or a mono- or poly-heterocyclic group, which mono- or polycyclic groups may optionally be substituted one or more times with substituents selected from the group consisting of hydrogen, halogen, trihalogenmethyl, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, amino, nitro, [or] cyano, [or a group of the formula] -OR', [or] and -SR';

R' and R", independently of each another, represents hydrogen, alkyl, cycloalkyl, alkenyl, alkynyl, or alkoxy.

17. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 16, wherein the partially or completely saturated mono- or polycyclic aryl group is selected from the group consisting of phenyl, biphenyl, naphthyl, [or] and cyclopenta-2,4-diene-1-ylidene; and

the mono- or poly-heterocyclic group is a 5- and 6-membered heterocyclic monocyclic group selected from the group consisting of furanyl, imidazolyl, isoimidazolyl, 2-isoimidazolyl, isothiazolyl, isoxazolyl, 1,2,3-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,4-oxadiazolyl, 1,2,5-oxadiazolyl, 1,3,4-oxadiazolyl, oxazolyl, piperidyl, pyrazinyl, pyrazolyl, pyridazinyl, pyridyl, pyrimidinyl, pyrrolidinyl, pyrrolyl, thiadiazolyl, thiazolyl, thienyl, and butyrolactonyl[, in particular γ -butyrolactonyl].

18. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 2, wherein the compound is (4-chlorophenyl-diphenyl)-carbinol; Ethyl 2-phenyl-2-(1-piperidyl)-phenylacetate; or 1,1,1-triphenylacetone; or a pharmaceutically acceptable salt or an oxide or a hydrate hereof.

19. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 1 or 2, wherein the disease, disorder or condition relating to immune dysfunction is an auto-immune disease, [e.g. Addison's disease, alopecia areata, Ankylosing spondylitis, haemolytic anemia (anemia haemolytica), pernicious anemia (anemia perniciosa), aphthae, aphthous stomatitis, arthritis, arteriosclerotic disorders, osteoarthritis, rheumatoid arthritis, aspermiogenese, asthma bronchiale, auto-immune asthma, auto immune hemolysis, Bechet's disease, Boeck's disease, inflammatory bowel disease,

Burkitt's lymphoma, Chron's disease, chorioiditis, colitis
 ulcerosa, Coeliac disease, cryoglobulinemia, dermatitis
 herpetiformis, dermatomyositis, insulin-dependent type I
 diabetes, juvenile diabetes, idiopathic diabetes insipidus,
 insulin-dependent diabetes mellitis, auto-immune demyelinating
 diseases, Dupuytren's contracture, encephalomyelitis,
 encephalomyelitis allergica, endophthalmia phacoanaphylactica,
 enteritis allergica, autoimmune enteropathy syndrome, erythema
 nodosum leprosum, idiopathic facial paralysis, chronic fatigue
 syndrome, febris rheumatica, glomerulo nephritis, Goodpasture's
 syndrome, Graves' disease, Hamman-Rich's disease, Hashimoto's
 disease, Hashimoto's thyroiditis, sudden hearing loss,
 ensoneural hearing loss, hepatitis chronica, Hodgkin's disease,
 haemoglobinuria paroxysmatica, hypogonadism, ileitis regionalis,
 iritis, leucopenia, leucemia, lupus erythematosus disseminatus,
 systemic lupus erythematosus, cutaneous lupus erythematosus,
 lymphogranuloma malignum, mononucleosis infectiosa, myasthenia
 gravis, traverse myelitis, primary idiopathic myxedema, nephrosis,
 ophthalmia symphatica, orchitis granulomatosa, pancreatitis,
 pemphigus, pemphigus vulgaris, polyarteritis nodosa, polyarthrititis
 chronica primaria, polymyositis, polyradiculitis acuta, psoriasis,
 purpura, pyoderma gangrenosum, Quervain's thyreoiditis, Reiter's
 syndrome, sarcoidosis, ataxic sclerosis, progressive systemic
 sclerosis, scleritis, sclerodermia, multiple sclerosis,

sclerosis disseminata, acquired splenic atrophy, infertility due to antispermatozoan antibodies, thrombocytopenia, idiopathic thrombocytopenia purpura, thymoma, acute anterior uveitis, vitiligo,] AIDS, HIV, SCID and Epstein Barr virus associated diseases [such as Sjorgren's syndrome, virus (AIDS or EBV) associated B cell lymphoma], parasitic diseases [such as Leishmania, and] or immune-suppressed disease states [such as viral infections following allograft transplantations, graft vs. Host syndrome, transplant rejection, or AIDS, cancer, chronic active hepatitis diabetes, toxic shock syndrome, food poisoning, or transplant rejection].

20. (Amended) The [use] method according to [claim 1 or 2] claim 1, [wherein for the manufacture of a medicament which medicament] said method further [comprises] comprising administering a pharmaceutically effective amount of a conventional immune suppressing agent to said mammal.

21. (Amended) The [use] method according to claim 20, wherein the immune-suppressing agent is Amphotericin, Busulphan, Co-trimoxazole, Chlorambucil, colony stimulating factors, corticosteroids, Cyclophosphamide, Fluconazole, folinic acid, Ganciclovir, antilymphocyte immunoglobulins, normal immunoglobulins, Methotrexate, Methyl prednisolone, Octreotide,

Oxpentifylline, Tacrolimus (FK506), Thalidomide, Zolimomab aritox, or the calcineurin inhibitors (protein phosphatase 2B inhibitors), in particular Cyclosporin.

24. (Amended) The method according to [either of claims 22-23] claim 20, which method comprises simultaneous administration of the chemical compound having selective IK_{Ca} inhibitory activity and [a] the pharmaceutically effective amount of [a] the conventional immune suppressing agent.

25. (Amended) The method according to claim 24, wherein the immune-suppressing agent is Amphotericin, Busulphan, Co-trimoxazole, Chlorambucil, colony stimulating factors, corticosteroids, Cyclophosphamide, Fluconazole, folinic acid, Ganciclovir, antilymphocyte immunoglobulins, normal immunoglobulins, Methotrexate, Methylprednisolone, Octreotide, Oxpentifylline, Tacrolimus (FK506), Thalidomide, Zolimomab aritox, or the calcineurin inhibitors (protein phosphatase 2B inhibitors) [, in particular Cyclosporin].

Claims 26-34 have been added.